

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 SCA-01 EB-11 SCS-03 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01

SP-03 CAB-09 COME-00 DOTE-00 FAA-00 /076 R

DRAFTED BY EA/LC:AFANTIPPAS:DTM

APPROVED BY EA/LC:LMRIVES

L/EA:EVERVILLE

SCA/PPT:RAMCKAY

EA/P:WMAGRUDER

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R 171637Z JUN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ETRN, CPAS, CB

SUBJECT: POST ARTICLE ON PROTESTS OF US COMMERCIAL PILOTS
IN CAMBODIA

1. WASHINGTON POST CARRIES ARTICLE BY ELIZABETH BECKER
(TEXT BY WIRELESS FILE) THAT STATES THE EMBASSY IS NOT RE-
SPONSIVE TO DEMANDS OF PRIVATE AMERICAN PILOTS/OWNERS OF
COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT, WHO FEEL FANK TAKES MANY LIBERTIES
WITH AIRCRAFT IN COMBAT AREAS. SPECIFIC ALLEGATIONS ARE
THAT COMMANDEERED AIRCRAFT ARE BEING ENDANGERED BY FLIGHTS
INTO COMBAT ZONES WITH MILITARY CARGOES. THE ARTICLE SAID
THE EMBASSY AIR ATTACHE OFFERED TO WRITE A LETTER TO KAF
ASKING THAT THE PLANES CONCERNED NOT BE TAKEN TO KOMPONG
CHAM.

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2. IN PRESS GUIDANCE TODAY WE ARE LIMITING OURSELVES TO

STATEMENTS THAT WE DO NOT HAVE THE EMBASSY'S VIEWS AND WE
DO NOT HAVE ENOUGH DATA ON CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS BETWEEN
GKR AND THE AMERICAN FIRMS TO GIVE AN OPINION.

3. CONCERNING THE THREAT TO THEIR US CITIZENSHIP, DEPART-
MENT SPOKESMAN WILL LIMIT HIMSELF TO THE STATEMENT THAT
"ON THE BASIS OF THE FACTS AS STATED IN THE UP ARTICLE,
THE PILOTS ARE NOT CONSIDERED TO HAVE PLACED THEIR US CITI-
ZENSHIP IN JEOPARDY UNDER US LAW. NOR, DO WE BELIEVE,
WOULD THEIR US CITIZENSHIP BE PLACED IN JEOPARDY UNDER
SIMILAR CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE FUTURE." SISCO

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, AIR COMBAT OPERATIONS, CITIZENSHIP LOSS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: blochd0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE128619
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AFANTIPPAS:DTM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740157-0676
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740639/aaaabgwt.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: blochd0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JUN 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 JUL 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <13 MAR 2003 by WorrelSW>; WITHDRAWN <13 Jun 2005 by BoyleJA, PRIVACY>; RELEASED <16 JUN 2005 by powellba2>; APPROVED <20 JUN 2005 by blochd0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POST ARTICLE ON PROTESTS OF US COMMERCIAL PILOTS IN CAMBODIA
TAGS: PFOR, ETRN, CPAS, CB
To: PHNOM PENH
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005